

Cheek List of the Birds of Australia," 1926, where the relevant scientific names may be referred to:—

Date	Locality	Object of Attack	Attackers
Oct. 15, 1944	Fountain Head, N.T.	Koel (female)	Silver-crowned Friar-birds, Little Friar-birds, Yellow-throated Miners and two Blue-faced Honeyeaters.
Jan. 7, 1945	Batchelor, N.T.	Blue-winged Kookaburra (male)	Shining Flycatcher (male) and two Crimson Finches (male and female).
July 17, 1944	Katherine, N.T.	Brown Hawk	Large party of Galahs and two White Cockatoos.
June 4, 1944	Warlock Ponds, N.T.	Rufous Owl	Numerous birds of other species, including Blue-faced Honeyeaters and Blue-winged Kookaburras.
Dec. 25, 1942	Belgrave, Vic.	Tiger Snake	White-browed Scrubwrens, Southern Yellow Robins and a Honeyeater (sp.).
Sept. 30, 1945	Kowguran, Qld.	Observer	c.9 Apostle-birds, Noisy Miners, Magpie-larks (two) and a White-winged Chough.
Oct. 3 1945	Kowguran, Qld.	Observer	c.7 Apostle-birds and Noisy Miners.
May 20, 1935	Nangeenan, W.A.	Boobook Owl	A number of Red Wattlebirds and two Grey Butcher-birds.
Feb. 1, 1935	Nangeenan, W.A.	Tawny Frogmouth	Two Magpie-larks, a Butcher-bird and several Western Magpies.
Feb. 3, 1935	Nangeenan, W.A.	Boobook Owl	Several Dusky Miners and a Grey Butcher-bird.
April 15, 1936	Nangeenan, W.A.	Raven	Western Magpie and a number of Dusky Miners.
Mar. 5, 1941	Peel Estate, W.A.	Carpet Snake	Dusky Miners and Grey Butcher-birds.
Mar. 3, 1935	Nangeenan, W.A.	Brown Hawk	Western Magpies and Magpie-larks.
June 8, 1938	Peel Estate, W.A.	Toy Teddy Bear	Western Magpies, Magpie-larks, Dusky Miners and one Grey Butcher-bird.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Length of Kangaroo's Leap.—Some information is to hand on the length of jump of a Kangaroo (*Macropus ocydromus*). Mr. Edgar Grant, of Narrogin, measured one on the flat and it was 44 feet 9 inches, a tape measure being used. This is very interesting and it is worth quoting E. Le G. Troughton on this matter. He says ("Furred Animals of Australia"): "Leaps of up to nearly forty feet have been reported, but such records, if true, would undoubtedly have been influenced by unusually favourable circumstances of take-off and sloping ground." So this jump is really in the record class.

—V. N. SERVENTY, Subiaco.

Flight Speed of Bronzewing Pigeons.—It is well known that interesting data on the speed of bird flight can be obtained

by pacing individual birds with a motor ear along country roads. An opportunity of getting an estimate of the speed of the Common Bronzewing (*Phaps chalcoptera*) was provided me in November, 1945, near Lake Grace. Our ear flushed two Bronzewings from the ground, to the right of the road. They both overtook us, though one rose before the other, and flew at first parallel with the ear. They then quickly swung across the road in front of the ear and disappeared into the bush. Our ear was doing 40 miles per hour.

—D. L. SERVENTY, Nedlands.

Spinebill Honeyeaters and *Dryandra nivea*.—In *The Emu*, vol. 27, 1928, p. 185, there is an interesting paper by O. H. Sargent entitled "Reactions Between Birds and Plants", in which he stresses the part played by birds in the pollination of many species of native flora. He infers that *Banksia* and related species are primarily bird-pollinated. Of the cup-like blossoms of *Dryandra nivea* he remarks: "The style-tips are directed inwards round the rim of the 'cup', so that a bird seeking the nectar (nauseously heavy-odoured), which pours from the blossoms on to the bottom of the 'cup', must needs rub every style-tip. Excellent as its pollination mechanism undoubtedly is, *Dryandra nivea* is a very 'shy' seeder. The reason why is quite unknown to the author . . ."

As no particular bird-pollinators are mentioned by Mr. Sargent for this plant, it may, therefore, be of interest to record that in the Coolup district where the plant is common I have frequently found the Western Spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus superciliosus*) feeding with its head immersed in its cup-like blossoms. In his paper Sargent enumerates the following species in which the Spinebill has been seen feeding: *Anigozanthus manglesii*, *Banksia* spp., *Hardenbergia comptoniana*, fuchsia and "geranium".

—A. H. ROBINSON, Coolup.

Bob-tail Bite.—Some years ago while on a visit to the Narrogin district, I encountered a Bob-tail Lizard (*Trachysaurus rugosus*) and decided to take his photograph. My host, who was with me, secured the lizard in the approved manner, i.e., by seizing him behind the head with thumb and forefinger. I then made the mistake of taking the lizard from my friend in the same way, except that, for convenience I approached it from the head end instead of from the tail end. The Bob-tail promptly seized one of my disengaged fingers which came within range of his jaws and held on with remarkable tenacity. My friend, more concerned for my welfare than that of the unfortunate reptile, struck it several heavy blows with a stick, but finally had to lever its jaws apart in order to release me.

As the finger was somewhat lacerated, I took an early opportunity of bathing it with a solution of permanganate of potash. The bite was a little painful at first as the flesh had been torn at the base of the finger nail, but there were no complications.

No doubt lizard bites if neglected could cause more or less